

SENATE BILL 1867

By Powers

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 62,
Chapter 13, relative to distance education courses
for licensees.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 62-13-325, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting:

(a) "Distance education" shall be used interchangeably with "correspondence courses" and includes all education through other media where the teacher and student are separated by distance or time. Distance education courses approved by the commission must be completed within one (1) year of the date of enrollment in order for continuing education to be granted to the licensee. Distance education may include printed materials, computer-based materials, and online materials.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 62-13-325, is amended by deleting subsection (c) and substituting:

(c)

(1) As used in this subsection (c):

(A) "Asynchronous course" means a course offered to students at no specific time, where the teacher and student are separated by both time and distance; and

(B) "Synchronous course" means a course offered in real time, where the teacher and student are separated by distance.

(2)

(A) A distance education course using computer-based or online materials or formats may be submitted to the commission for analysis and possible approval if the course is certified by the Association of Real Estate License Law Officials (ARELLO) or another certifying body at the discretion of the commission, as to technology, support of the technology, interactivity, and course design.

(B) The certification requirement under subdivision (c)(2)(A) does not apply to a synchronous course, but does apply to an asynchronous course.

(3) The commission shall review these certified courses on a case by case basis to determine whether the curriculum meets commission education requirements.

(4) A course that provides more than eight (8) hours of continuing education must include a final examination that must be executed prior to submission to the commission for education credit.

(5) Approval of a course under this subsection (c) must be automatically withdrawn if certification by the respective certifying body is discontinued.

SECTION 3. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.